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XIX. *Observations on some Species of Menziesia, hitherto considered as belonging to the Genus Andromeda, by Ol. Swartz, M.D. Bergian Professor of Botany at Stockholm, F.M.L.S.*

*Read April 17, 1810.*

THE great natural affinity between the genera of *Erica*, *Andromeda*, and *Menziesia* is well known; but at the same time it appears unquestionable that they can never unite with each other. The character of the *Menziesia* was first explained by the President of the Linnean Society, in his excellent work the *Plantæ hactenus ineditæ*, t. 56, where he points out the principal generic difference from the real *Andromedas* and *Ericas* to be, a capsule similar to that of *Rhododendron*, or the *dissepimenta loculorum e marginibus valvularum inflexis*, which accordingly places this genus in a natural order distinct from the *Ericææ*. The author of the *Gen. Plant. secundum Ord. Nat. disposita*, attending to the character of *Menziesia*, indicated afterwards (*Annales du Mus. d'Hist. Nat.* i. p. 52.) the necessity of transferring another plant to the same genus, viz. the *Erica* or *Andromeda Daboecii* of different authors, who, from principles not before fixed concerning the natural affinity, had appeared irresolute about its real place, now sufficiently ascertained by Mr. Salisbury (*Transact. of Linn. Soc.* vi. p. 323.) and from my own inspection of Irish and Spanish specimens.

From equally urgent reasons I take the liberty to indicate a similarity of character in two other plants, and to propose their union with the genus *Menziesia* as real species. These are the *Andromeda cærulea* of Linnæus, and the *Andromeda Bryantha* of Pallas. As for the first-mentioned, the discovery of its particular fruit is by no means new, as the celebrated author of the *Flora Britannica* in his new edition of the Linnean *Flora Lapponica* has already observed the carpological difference of this plant from the other species of *Andromeda*; and at that time thought proper to refer the same to *Erica*, where also Professor Willdenow in his *Spec. Plant.* has enlisted it, as well as the *Andromeda Bryantha*. It is, however, now my intention to prove the propriety of an alteration in this arrangement.

That the capsule of *Andromeda cærulea* by its *valvæ introflexæ loculum proprium constituentes* (Juss.) shows its relationship to the *Rhododendra*, cannot escape an intelligent observer. This circumstance added to a comparison with the *partes fructificantes* of *Menziesia* puts, I think, its near affinity with that genus out of doubt. The calyx of the former is, it is true, *repandus* but *monophyllus*; in the latter also consisting of one leaf, though deeply divided into 5 lacinia. The form of the *corolla*, its deciduous nature, the *insertio staminum*, the *antheræ*, the *stigma lobatum*, all correspond. The number only differs; which however cannot be of any particular weight, since we find that the *Andromeda Bryantha*, in so many respects resembling the former, even in number approaches the *Menziesia*, as being *octandrous*.

Upon the whole, there is nothing but the habit which at first sight shows any difference. But considering the very great dissimilarity really existing between the species of *Andromeda*, for instance between *A. hypnoides* and *A. mariana*, or *A. tetragona* and  
*buxifolia*,

*buxifolia*, &c. that difficulty is certainly soon removed. It is also interesting to observe, how nature has varied the appearances in both these genera, as well as in many others.

From such reasons I hope to determine with sufficient propriety the *Andromeda cærulea* to be

MENZIESIA *cærulea*;

foliis sparsis confertis linearibus obtusis cartilagineo-denticulatis, pedunculis terminalibus aggregatis unifloris, floribus decandris.

TAB. XXX. Fig. A.

*Andromeda cærulea*. Linn. *Fl. Lapp: ed. Smith*, p. 133. t. 1. f. 5. *Flor. Svec.* 354.

*Andromeda taxifolia*. Pallas *Fl. Ross.* t. 72. fig. 2. *Flor.* p. 103.

*Erica cærulea*. Willd. *Sp. Pl.* ii. p. 393.

*Obs.* *Folia* sparsa, conferta (imprimis versus apices ramorum) nec propriè terna dicenda, Willd.) planiuscula, utrinque sulco exarata, subtùs latiore albido villosa, margine minutè denticulata, denticulis cartilagineis diaphanis. *Pedunculi* intensè rubri, elongati, pube glandulifera undique hispiduli. *Calyx* extùs glanduloso-pubescent. *Flores* nutantes. *Antheræ* leviter apice bifidæ, loculis foramine terminali obliquè hiantes. *Stigma* 5-lobum. *Capsulæ* erectæ, hirsutie glandulifera vestitæ, vetustiores muriculatæ. *Receptaculum* seminum 5-gonum 5-sulcatum, angulis rugulosis. *Semina* oblonga, undato-venulosa, spadicea.

The other, or *Andromeda Bryantha*, I call

MENZIESIA *Bryantha*;

foliis sparsis confertis oblongo-linearibus, pedunculis apice corymbosis, floribus octandris.

TAB.

## TAB. XXX. Fig. B.

*Andromeda Bryantha*. Pallas Fl. Ross. t. 74. f. 2. Fl. p. 111.

*Bryanthus repens*, serpilli folio, flore roseo. Gmel. Fl. Sib. 4. 132. t. 57. f. 3.

*Erica Bryantha*. Willd. Sp. Pl. ii. p. 386.

*Obs.* Fruticulus ramosissimus prostratus, ramulis implexis assurgentibus. Folia sparsa, sæpe conferta, a situ subinde secunda, oblongo-linearia, obtusiuscula, suprâ planiuscula, subtùs valdè convexa, sulco profundo notata (nec suprâ ut *Pall.*) margine (oculo armato) ciliato-denticulata, ciliis cartilagineis. Pedunculi solitarii, elongati, pubescentes, bractea l. foliolo uno alterove ciliato, glanduloso, instructi; apice corymbosi, pedicelli unifloris. Calyx 4-partitus, pubescens. Capsula ovato-subrotunda, glabra, scabriuscula. Semina ovata\*.

Notwithstanding the dissimilarity in habit from the origin: *Menziesia ferruginea*, we find in some instances a similar tendency in both these species, e. g. the elongated flowerstalks, the nodding flowers, (though the fruitstalks and capsules become erect,) the ciliated and glandular appearances on the leaves and the parts belonging to the flower.

How far the *Andromeda Stelleriana* Pall. Fl. Ross. t. 74. f. 2., which appears somewhat like the *Bryantha*, and is by Willdenow also referred to *Erica*, may be another species of *Menziesia*, I cannot at present decide, having only seen the plant figured. I have, however, some doubts, as Pallas describes the antheræ as bisetæ, and Steller observed, that “neque calyx neque flos decedunt, sed ambo marcescunt.” It may perhaps rather be a true species of *Erica*.

\* More circumstantial descriptions occur in the writings of Linnæus and Pallas, where, however, the most of these particulars are omitted.

# ARTICLE

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